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on the Elimination
of all Forms of
Racial Discrimination

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COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
Forty-fourth session
Geneva
28 February-18 March 1994

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The forty-fourth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 28 February to 18 March 1994. The first meeting of the session will be convened at 10.30 a.m. on Monday, 28 February.

2. This document contains the provisional agenda for the forty-fourth session of the Committee, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, together with annotations relating thereto.

3. The attention of States parties is drawn, in particular, to the annotations to item 7, which contain the tentative timetable for consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention.

4. In accordance with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the representatives of the States parties are invited to be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session by the representative of the Secretary-General.

2. Solemn declaration by the newly elected members of the Committee under rule 14 of the rules of procedure.

3. Election of officers.

4. Adoption of the agenda.

5. Action by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session:

   (a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention.

   (b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights.

6. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

7. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention.

8. Prevention of racial discrimination, including early warning and urgent procedures.

9. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention.

10. Consideration of copies of petitions, copies of reports and other information relating to Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to all other territories to which General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) applies, in conformity with article 15 of the Convention.

11. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session by the representative of the Secretary-General

The forty-fourth session of the Committee will be opened by the representative of the Secretary-General, who will preside over the meeting until the election of the Chairman of the Committee.

2. Solemn declaration by the newly elected members of the Committee under rule 14 of the rules of procedure

In accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure, the nine members of the Committee elected or re-elected at the Fifteenth Meeting of the States parties to the Convention, held on 12 January 1994, will make the following solemn declaration:

> "I solemnly declare that I will perform my duties and exercise my powers as a member of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination honourably, faithfully, impartially and conscientiously."

3. Election of officers

In accordance with article 10, paragraph 2, of the Convention and rules 15 and 16 of the rules of procedure, the Committee shall elect from among its members a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. The officers of the Committee shall be elected for a term of two years.

Under rule 58 of the rules of procedure, elections shall be held by secret ballot, unless the Committee decides otherwise in the case of election to fill a place for which there is only one candidate.

4. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the adoption of the agenda of any session shall follow the election of officers when required under rule 15. In accordance with rule 9, the Committee may revise the agenda during a session and may, as appropriate, add, defer or delete items.

5. Action by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session

(a) Annual report submitted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention

Following a request made by the Committee at its seventh session in 1973, this item is included yearly on the Committee's provisional agenda.

Pursuant to article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the annual report of the Committee, covering its activities during the forty-second and forty-third sessions, was submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session. The Committee will have before it the relevant summary records of the Third Committee and the relevant General Assembly resolution.

(b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights

During the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly, this item was considered by the Third Committee jointly with a number of other items. The Committee will have before it the relevant summary records of the Third Committee and the relevant General Assembly resolution.

Additionally, for its consideration of item 5 (a) and (b) of the provisional agenda, the Committee will have before it the following documents:

(a) Reports of the Secretary-General on the effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights (A/48/503 and A/48/508);

(b) Relevant summary records and reports of the Third Committee;

(c) Relevant General Assembly resolutions;

(d) Note by the Secretary-General on the provision of sufficient resources to ensure the effective functioning of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD/SP/47);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting a communication from the Committee to the Fifteenth Meeting of States parties (CERD/SP/48);

(f) Summary records of the Fifteenth Meeting of the States parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;

(g) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting to the Commission on Human Rights the updated study of the independent expert on enhancing the long-term effectiveness of the United Nations human rights treaty regime (E/CN.4/1994/69).

6. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention

At its forty-fourth session, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General concerning the status of submission of reports by States parties in accordance with article 9 of the Convention (CERD/C/251). As may be noted from part A of that document, reports received from 15 States parties are pending consideration by the Committee. Part B of the document contains information relating to overdue reports.

Under article 9, paragraph 2, of the Convention and pursuant to rule 67, paragraph 3, of its rules of procedure, the Committee may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of the reports and information received from States parties. At its forty-second and forty-third sessions, the Committee gave preliminary consideration to four draft general recommendations concerning public life, effectiveness, segregation and State policies and exchanged views on a number of draft narrative general

recommendations on the substantive articles of the Convention. Continued consideration of those draft general recommendations is pending their revision.

7. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention

The following timetable for consideration of reports submitted by States parties at the forty-fourth session has been drawn up by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman, taking into account the relevant decisions taken by the Committee at its forty-third session.

In pursuance of established practice and in conformity with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their respective reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee, as follows:

Timetable for consideration of reports of States parties

Tuesday, 1 March		
	France	Ninth, tenth and eleventh periodic reports, due in 1988, 1990 and 1992 respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/225/Add.2)
Wednesday, 2 March		
	Tunisia	Ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth periodic reports, due in 1986, 1988, 1990 and 1992 respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/226/Add.10)
Thursday, 3 March		
	Sweden	Eleventh periodic report due in 1993 (CERD/C/239/Add.1)
Friday, 4 March		
	Morocco	Ninth, tenth and eleventh periodic reports, due in 1990 and 1992 respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/225/Add.1)
Monday, 7 March		
	Canada	Eleventh periodic report, due in 1991 (CERD/C/210/Add.2)

Tuesday, 8 March

Senegal	Ninth and tenth periodic reports, due in 1989 and 1991 respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/209/Add.7)

Wednesday, 9 March 1/

Burundi	Information requested under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention
Rwanda	Information requested under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention

Thursday, 10 March 2/

Nicaragua	Fourth periodic report (CERD/C/128/Add.1) considered at the 818th meeting in 1988 (CERD/C/SR.818)
Sri Lanka	Second periodic report (CERD/C/126/Add.2) considered at the 764th and 765th meetings in 1986 (CERD/C/SR.764-765)
Mauritius	Seventh periodic report (CERD/C/131/Add.8) considered at the 782nd and 792nd meetings in 1987 (CERD/C/SR.782 and 792)
Mali	Sixth periodic report (CERD/C/130/Add.2) considered at the 754th meeting in 1986 (CERD/C/SR.754)

1/ In view of reports of ethnic conflict in Burundi and Rwanda, the Committee decided at its forty-first session (1992) to request further information from the Governments concerned regarding the implementation of the Convention (see A/47/18, chapter VII, decisions 1 and 2).

2/ At its forty-third session, the Committee decided to continue to review the implementation of the Convention in States parties whose reports are excessively overdue on the basis of the last reports submitted by the country concerned and the consideration of those reports by the Committee. The review of the implementation of the Convention in the seven States parties scheduled for Thursday, 10 March 1994 will be undertaken on this basis.

Thursday, 10 March (continued)

United Republic of Tanzania	Sixth and seventh periodic reports submitted in one document (CERD/C/131/Add.11) and considered at the 817th meeting in 1988 (CERD/C/SR.817)
Barbados	Seventh periodic report (CERD/C/131/Add.13) considered at the 890th meeting in 1991 (CERD/C/SR.890)
United Arab Emirates	Sixth periodic report (CERD/C/130/Add.1) considered at the 824th meeting in 1988 (CERD/C/SR.824)

Monday, 14 March

Norway	Tenth and eleventh periodic reports, due in 1989 and 1991 respectively, submitted in one document (CERD/C/185/Add.5)

8. Prevention of racial discrimination, including early warning and urgent procedures

Under this agenda item, the Committee may wish to discuss follow-up action pursuant to the concluding observations adopted by the Committee at its forty-third session in regard to the situation in former Yugoslavia. For this purpose, the Committee will be briefed on the missions undertaken by one of its members to Croatia and three of its members to Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro).

9. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVIII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are or appear to be submitted to it under article 14 of the Convention.

In accordance with rule 88 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee during which communications under article 14 of the Convention are examined shall be closed.

10. Consideration of copies of petitions, copies of reports and other information relating to Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and to all other territories to which General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) applies, in conformity with article 15 of the Convention

Under this item, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General (CERD/C/252) concerning article 15 of the Convention and listing, as appropriate, copies of petitions, reports and working papers

relating to the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

11. Third decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

At its 695th meeting (thirtieth session) in August 1984, the Committee decided to keep this item on its agenda and requested the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the relevant activities which would be undertaken in accordance with the Programme of Action for the Third Decade.

Among the matters to be considered under this agenda item, the Committee may wish to discuss the relevant action taken by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session and the recommendation by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in its resolution 1993/3 that arrangements be made for the convening in 1994 of a joint meeting of the Sub-Commission, the Committee and the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia and related intolerance. The purpose of that joint meeting would be to elaborate recommendations pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/20, paragraph 4, in regard to measures to be taken at the national and international level in the struggle against racism and racial discrimination.

For its consideration of this item at its forty-fourth session, the Committee will have before it the following documents:

(a) The relevant General Assembly resolution on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination;

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting to the Commission on Human Rights the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (E/CN.4/1994/63);

(c) Report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia and related intolerance (E/CN.4/1994/66);

(d) Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/20 on measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(e) Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities resolution 1993/3 on measures to combat racism and racial discrimination and the role of the Sub-Commission.